



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

6 JANUARY 2021

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Los Angeles – Former President of Colton Labor Union Gets 12 Years for Embezzlement

(U) The former president of a Colton-based labor union was sentenced in Los Angeles to a dozen years in federal prison for stealing nearly \$800,000 from the union's health plan trust fund, which he used for personal expenses including legal bills and a sports car loan for his son. John S. Romero, 74, of Loma Linda, was sentenced by US District Judge Virginia A. Phillips, who scheduled a 5 April hearing to determine the amount of restitution Romero owes his victims.

SOURCE: 5 January 2021, [Fox11](#)

(U) Sacramento – EDD Halts Some Unemployment Payments Amid Widening Fraud Problems

(U) A widening fraud problem has prodded the state Employment Development Department (EDD) to suspend unemployment payments to some California workers at the same time COVID-19-linked business shutdowns have left people without a job. The halt in payments for an unspecified number of workers in the state comes at a time when the EDD is reporting that a backlog of unpaid unemployment claims has again begun to swell. "As part of ongoing efforts to fight fraud, EDD has suspended payment on claims considered high risk," the EDD stated in a tweet posted on 3 January.

SOURCE: 5 January 2021, [Mercury News](#)

(U) San Jacinto – Woman Pleads Guilty to Bomb Threats Against Catholic High School

(U) Sonia Tabizada, 36, pleaded guilty in federal court "to intentionally obstructing persons in the enjoyment of their free exercise of religious beliefs" by threatening to bomb the Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School in Washington, D.C., the DOJ announced in a press release. Tabizada left a voice message stating that she was going to burn and bomb the church and that she was going to kill school officials and students. Tabizada left a second voice mail stating that she was going to blow up the school and warned that she would commit "terrorism." Her actions qualified as a hate crime. She faces a maximum penalty of 20-years in prison, three-years of supervised release, and a fine of up to \$250,000.

SOURCE: 5 January 2021, [Fox News](#)

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) Texas – Shots Fired at US Border Patrol Agents During Vehicle Pursuit

(U) Brackettville – Border Patrol agents attempted to stop a suspected alien smuggler on Ranch Road 334 near Brackettville. The driver subsequently pulled over and fired a weapon at agents from the vehicle before driving away. The vehicle was spiked by local law enforcement partners in Real County and when the vehicle came to a stop, the driver fled on foot. A female suspected smuggler and several individuals were located inside the cab of the vehicle arrested. The male driver, a citizen of Mexico was tracked through the brush and later arrested without incident.

SOURCE: 5 January 2021, [CBP](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia – Police Make Several Arrests Ahead of Major Election Protest

(U) Washington – Several people were arrested in Washington, DC, yesterday in connection to protests ahead of Congress' certification of the Electoral College votes on Wednesday. Washington DC Metropolitan Police said six arrests were made as of 9 p.m., including some involving multiple charges. Those charges included a handful that were weapons-related, including carrying firearms without a license, possession of unregistered ammunition and possession of an unregistered firearm. Protesters were also charged with assaulting a police officer and simple assault.

SOURCE: 6 January 2021, [NBC News](#)

(U) District of Columbia – US Intel Agencies Fault Russia for Massive SolarWinds Hack

(U) Washington – The FBI, the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI), the National Security Agency (NSA) and the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) formally attributed the recently discovered hack of IT group SolarWinds to Russia. Agencies including the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Defense and the Energy Department's National Nuclear Security Administration have confirmed they were impacted by the attack, with hackers potentially present in these systems since March 2020. SolarWinds reported in a filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission last month that up to 18,000 of its customers had potentially been compromised.

SOURCE: 5 January 2021, [The Hill](#)

(U) Missouri – Missouri Highway Patrol Shoots Man Who Fired at Troop Headquarters

(U) Liberty – A man fired several shots with an assault-style rifle at a suburban Kansas City headquarters for the Missouri State Highway Patrol before he was shot and wounded by troopers, the patrol said. The patrol said employees inside the building heard gunshots and troopers who went to an exterior door saw a man with the rifle. The man approached the main entrance and fired several shots. The man was hospitalized and no troopers or civilian employees inside the headquarters were injured.

SOURCE: 5 January 2021, [ABC News](#)

(U) New York – Suspect in Hoax Bomb Already Under NYPD Investigation

(U) New York City – Louis Shenker, 22, a right-wing conspiracy theorist who allegedly planted a hoax bomb that forced evacuation of a New York City mall surrendered to police, authorities said. He was arrested and charged with criminal mischief and two counts of low-level arson, accused of burning a poster affixed to an NYPD barricade, according to the Manhattan District Attorney's Office. Law enforcement officials say that police were already investigating Shenker and that they have arrested him twice in connection with other disruptive stunts.

SOURCE: 5 January 2021, [NBC News](#)

(U) Wisconsin – Kyle Rittenhouse Pleads Not Guilty to All Charges

(U) Kenosha County – Kyle Rittenhouse entered not guilty pleas to all of the charges against him at a court hearing in Kenosha County. The 18-year-old is accused of killing two people and wounding a third during unrest in Kenosha following the shooting of Jacob Blake by police in late August 2020. Rittenhouse faces five felonies: first-degree intentional homicide, first-degree reckless homicide, two counts of recklessly endangering safety, and attempted first-degree intentional homicide.

SOURCE: 5 January 2021, [ABC27](#)

UNCLASSIFIED

(U) Wisconsin – Prosecutor Declines to Charge Officer Involved in Jacob Blake Shooting

(U) Kenosha County – The Kenosha County District Attorney has declined to file criminal charges against the police officer who shot Jacob Blake. The announcement was made yesterday afternoon from an undisclosed location. District Attorney Michael Graveley said Officer Rusten Sheskey was justified in his use of deadly force. Graveley said Sheskey, 31, was acting in self-defense when he shot Blake. He also said Blake would not face any charges.

SOURCE: 6 January 2021, [ABC12](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Belgium – 10 People to Stand Trial Over Deadly Brussels Attacks

(U) Brussels – Ten people including the lone known surviving suspect in the deadly November 2015 Paris attacks have been ordered to stand trial in connection with the suicide bombings which killed 32 people and injured hundreds in the Brussels subway and airport nearly five-years ago. Earlier this year, prosecutors requested that eight of the 13 main suspects should be referred to the criminal court of assizes — the court that tries the most serious crimes — for charges of assassinations and attempted assassinations in a terrorism context, and for belonging to a terror group.

SOURCE: 5 January 2021, [AP News](#)

(U) Israel – Israeli Guard Kills Alleged Palestinian Attacker

(U) Jerusalem – The Israeli military said an Israeli security officer shot and killed a Palestinian man who allegedly tried to carry out a stabbing attack in the occupied West Bank. In a statement, the army said the officer spotted the man approaching an intersection and together with an Israeli soldier fired warning shots into the air. It said the suspect threw a knife at the security officer, who then shot the Palestinian. The army said the alleged attacker was pronounced dead.

SOURCE: 5 January 2021, [ABC News](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

(U) FOR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE EMAIL STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV, OR CALL 916-636-2900.

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